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IRAQ-KUWAIT RELATIONS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER CONFIRMS GEN. AL-MUMIN IS THE
"CHOSEN ONE" FOR KUWAITI AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ

REF: KUWAIT 5032

Classified By: Ambassador Richard LeBaron for reason 1.4 (b)

¶1. (C) During a December 14 meeting with the Ambassador, Foreign Minister Shaykh Dr. Mohammed Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah confirmed that General Ali Hassan Al Mu'min, former Kuwaiti military Chief of Staff and current head of the Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC), is the Government's choice for ambassador to Iraq. The FM went on to say that Kuwait is waiting for the Iraqi government to announce its own nominee for ambassador to Kuwait after formation of a new government, and then the GOK will act formally. He indicated that the Iraqis were well aware of GOK intentions.

¶2. (C) Gen. Ali (as he is known) has probably had more contact with the Iraqis in the post-Saddam period than has any other GOK official. We will provide additional bio information as the nomination develops.

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